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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/612,946	07/10/2000	Masato Ochiai	CFO	9916
5514	7590	10/07/2005	EXAMINER	
FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO 30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA NEW YORK, NY 10112			STRANGE, AARON N	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2153	
DATE MAILED: 10/07/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/612,946

Applicant(s)

OCHIAI ET AL.

Examiner

Aaron Strange

Art Unit

2153

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 35,37 and 39-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 35,37 and 39-46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 35, 37, and 39 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.
2. With regard to Applicant's assertion that the cited art does not disclose "registering, according to an icon of a device corresponding to a search result being shifted onto a displayed map, respective location information of plural hierarchies of hierarchical location information defined on the map to the device corresponding to the icon", the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Such a limitation is taught by the combination of Tonelli, Idehara, and Case, as discussed below with regard to the rejection of claims 35, 37, and 39.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 35, 37, 39, ~~41~~, and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tonelli et al. (US 6,229,540) in view of Idehara (US 2001/0052995) in further view of Case et al. (RFC 1907).

5. With regard to claims 35, 37, and 39, which are similar to claim 30 above, Tonelli discloses:

A transmission unit (query engine 502) arranged to transmit device attribute information input by a user to search for a desired device (col. 19 lines 11-col. 20 line 11);

A reception unit arranged to receive, as search results, device information of at least one device satisfying the device attribute information transmitted by said transmission unit (fig. 51, col. 20 lines 54-57);

A first display unit arranged to identifiable display icons respectively corresponding to a device of the device information received at the search results by the reception unit (fig. 51, 576, 578, col. 21 lines 4-11);

A registration unit arranged to register location information to a device (missing attributes can be entered by user and validated)(Col 21, Line 22-50).

However, Tonelli fails to disclose a second display unit arranged to display a map on which hierarchical location information including respective location information of plural hierarchies is displayed or the registration unit registering location information according to the icon being shifted onto the map.

Idehara teaches providing a map displaying hierarchical location information and allowing a user to specify the location of a device by shifting an icon of the device onto the map (Figs 10, 20; ¶116-118 and ¶135-136). This would have been an advantageous addition to the system disclosed by Tonelli since it would have allowed the user to

quickly and easily locate the correct location for devices by using the map and allowed the user to easily relate between the locations of the cons and the locations of the actual device (§118).

While the combination of Tonelli and Idehara shows substantial features of the claimed invention (discussed above), it fails to specifically disclose that the registration information is registered to the device corresponding to the icon placed on the map.

Case teaches registering changes location information in a device using the well known Simple network management Protocol (SNMP). SNMP has a specific command for setting location information (sysLocation) (Pages 4-5) that allows setting and storing location information in a network device and retrieval of that information by other devices. This would have been an advantageous addition to the system disclosed by Tonelli and Idehara since it would have allowed the management system to update the device attributes that are stored in the device when a user initially places or changes the location of an icon on the map, since the locations of the icons directly corresponds with the location of the devices (Idehara, §118).

6. With regard to claim 40, Idehara further discloses that the map is expressive of a layout of a predetermined hierarchy to indicate a setting location of the device (Fig 19-20,25; §118 and 149).

7. With regard to claim 41, Idehara further discloses a holding unit adapted to hold respective map data of the plural hierarchies (§149-150).

8. With regard to claim 42, Idehara further discloses that the first display unit discriminably displays whether or not the location information has been registered for each device (unregistered devices are shown off the map)(Fig 20).

9. With regard to claim 43, Idehara further discloses that said first display unit displays the icon of the device, from among the devices, for which the location information has been registered, at a predetermined location (registered devices are shown on the map) (Fig 20) and said first display unit displays the icon of the device, from among the devices, for which the location information is not registered, at a predetermined location other than on the map (unregistered devices are shown off the map) (Fig 20).

10. With regard to claim 44, Idehara further discloses that the predetermined location on the map where the icon of the device is displayed is based on the location information of the device (icons are displayed at the actual location of the devices) (Fig 20 and ¶118).

11. With regard to claim 45, Idehara further discloses a change unit adapted to change, according to the icon displayed at the predetermined location on the map being shifter, the location information of the device corresponding to said icon based on the

shifted location on the map (the layout diagram may be modified at the server by moving icons on the map) (186).

12. With regard to claim 46, Idehara further discloses that the device is any one of a printer, scanner, a copying machine and a facsimile machine (Fig 19-20; ¶118).

Conclusion

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aaron Strange whose telephone number is 571-272-3959. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glen Burgess can be reached on 571-272-3949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Dung C. Dinh
Primary Examiner